MINUTES

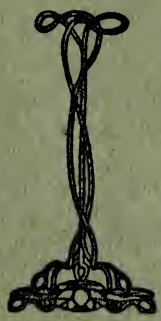
OF THE

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

ORIGINAL BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1941



— HELD WITH —

MT. CREEK CHURCH

STANLEY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SEPTEMBER 19, 20, 21, 1941

OFFICERS

ELDER C. M. MILLS - - - - - - - Moderator
J. E. RUSSELL - - - - - - - - - - Clerk
PRESTON HELMS - - - - - - Assistant Clerk
ROBERT HORNE - - - - - - - Reading Clerk

THE MESSENGER OF ZION PRINT, MADISONVILLE, KY.

PROCEEDINGS

The Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association convened with Mt. Creek Church, Stanley County, North Carolina, in its one hundred and ninth session, beginning Friday, September 19, 1941, and continued through Sunday.

After songs of parise, services continued with prayer by Elder W. T. Cook, of Eclectic, Ala., followed with introductory sermon by Elder C. M. Mills, pastor of Mt. Creek Church, from Acts 1:13-14.

After an hour for intermission and refreshments, the association met in the house, and after songs of praise, and prayer by Elder B. A. Phillips, R. No. 3, Alpharetta, Ga., messengers and brethren proceeded to business in the following order:

Elder C. M. Mills, pastor of Mt. Creek Church, was seated as moderator, with Brother J. E. Russell, clerk of the church, acting as clerk, who called Brother Preston Helms as assistant clerk, and Brother Robert Horne as reading clerk.

1. Invited all orderly Baptists who are in good standing in their home churches to seats with us.

2. Called for letters from sister churches, which were handed in, read and their status noted.

Mt. Creek represented by whole church.

From Bethel—Brother W. T. Bell.

From Lawyers Springs—Brethren Robert Horne, Cletus Marsh, Grant Sikes, P. A. Griffin and others.

From High Hill—Brethren H. T. Austin, M. C. Mills, N. M. Williams, S. H. Edwards and others.

From Watson—Brethren Preston Helms, H. N. Curlee, E. V. Baucom, J. T. Simpson and others.

From Union—Brethren W. R. Coley, Elder S. F. Heath, Brady Polk, W. A. Dean and others.

From Liberty Hill—Brethren Roy Branch, Fred Lee Honeycutt, C. C. Furr, J. A. Underwood and others.

From Meadow Creek—Brethren W. H. Hatley, R. M. Hatley, E. H. Simpson, R. M. Hathcock and others.

From Pleasant Grove—Brethren J. M. Williams, A. E. Broom, J. M. Taylor, B. F. Mills and others.

From Union Grove—Brethren Jeff Taylor, Leonard Baucom, F. P. Deese, F. L. Baucom and others.

3. Called for petitionary letters.

High Point Church presented a letter asking for membership in this association, and an arm known as Pleasant Hill, which was unanimously received.

Following are messengers from High Point Church: Elder V. V. Willard, Brethren R. A. Strickland, Darius Burris, L. A. King and others.

4. The moderator, Elder C. M. Mills, was authorized to appoint committees on preaching and finance.

Committee on Preaching—Brethren J. E. Russell, W. L. Solamon, E. F. Lambert, J. M. Taylor and Preston Helms.

Committee on Finance—Brethren Robert Horne, F. L. Baucom and A. E. Broom.

5. Called on presbyteries to report. None reported.

6. Invited messengers and visitors from sister associations and churches to seats with us.

We welcome your presence and hope you will continue to visit us.

From Silver Creek—No intelligence.

From Dan River—Elders J. R. Wilson, W. H. Lewis, J. D. Hopkins, W. H. Oaks, F. F. Eggleston, T. L. Wilson, Brethren J. S. Minter, J. J Minter and W. H. Winn.

From Little River of North Carolina—Elders J T. Lewis, J. S. Stephenson, E. L. Ferguson, M. M. Denning and Brethren O. B. Currin, R. F. Smith and M. N. Todd.

From South Arkansas—No intelligence.
From Sequachie Valley—No intelligence.
From Mt. Zion—No intelligence.
From Tennessee—Nolachucky—File of minutes.
From Little River of Georgia—Elders B. A. Phillipps and T. V. Mann
From Mud Creek—Elder Fred Stewart and file of minutes.
From Highland of Kentucky—Elder J. P. Clayton.
From Southwest Texas—Elder Ariel West.
From Lower Wetumpka—Elders W. T. Cook and J. B. Williams.
From Spoons Creek Church—Elder J. P. Via.

Correspondents to visit sister associations are as follows:

To Silver Creek—Elder V. V. Willard and Brother J. M. Taylor.
To Little River of North Carolina—Brethren S. H. Edwards, O. L. Burris, C. C. Furr and Elder O. C. Mullis.
To Sequachie Valley—Elder C. M. Mills.
To Mt. Zion—File of minutes.
To Tennessee-Nolachucky—Brother J. M. Taylor and file of minutes.
To South Arkansas—File of minutes.
To Little River of Georgia—Elders C. M. Mills and V. V. Willard.

7. Agreed to continue correspondence with all churches and associations with whom we now correspond.

8. On motion, Elder V. V. Willard was appointed to write corresponding letter to be printed in the minutes of this association.

9. On motion, agreed to adjourn to Saturday morning, September 20. Benediction by Elder J. R. Wilson, of Martinsville, Va.

SATURDAY A. M.

Pursuant to adjournment, the association met in the house at 9 o'clock a. m. After songs of praise, and prayer by Elder Fred Stewart, of the Mud Creek Association, of Alabama, proceeded to business as follows:

10. Called on Finance Committee to report. Reported sent up by churches and congregations, $261.95. Report received and committee released.

11. Agreed to distribute corresponding minutes as usual.

12. Corresponding letter called for, read and adopted.

13. On motion, agreed that we hold the next session of the association with Lawyers Springs Church, of Anson County, North Carolina, begin-

ning on Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1942, and continue three days, and that the pastor of Lawyers Springs Church preach the introductory sermon.

14. By motion, agreed that we have 800 copies of this minute printed and distributed as usual, and that Brother Preston Helms superintend the printing and distributing the same, and that we allow him $40.00 for his services.

15. By motion, we agree that all funds above $40.00 for printing and distributing minutes be distributed to ministers present.

16. By unanimous consent, the association returns thanks to God for His mercy and the brethren, sisters and friends of this church and vicinity for their hospitality and entertainment during this meeting.

17. On motion, the association adjourned to time and place above mentioned.

Benediction by Elder J. S. Stephenson, of Angier, N. C.

ORDER OF PREACHING

FRIDAY A. M.—
Elder C. M. Mills, Acts 1:13-14.

FRIDAY P. M.—
Elder J. P. Clayton.
Elder B. A. Phillips, Rev. 22:14.

SATURDAY A. M.—
Elder T. V. Mann, Romans 8:28.
Elder Fred Stewart.
Elder J. S. Stephenson, John 1:1.

SATURDAY P. M.—
Elder P. J. Washburn, Ephesians 5:8.
Elder J. D. Hopkins, John 5:25.
Elder W. H. Oaks, "He gave gifts to men."

SUNDAY A. M.—
Elder B. A. Phillips, 3 Col.
Elder Ariel West, Isaiah 46:10.
Elder W. T. Cook, Rev. 12:1.

SUNDAY P. M.—
Elder J. R. Wilson, 2 Peter 1:10.
Elder J. T. Lewis, 2 John 3:1.

FRIDAY NIGHT AT HIGH POINT CHURCH—
Elder W. T. Cook, Matt. 7:24-25; Elder Ariel West, Jere. 18:4.

FRIDAY NIGHT AT BROTHER J. E. RUSSELL'S—
Elder W. H. Lewis, failed to get text; Elder J. B. Williams, failed to get text.

SATURDAY NIGHT, HOME OF BROTHER ROY BRANCH—
Elder Ariel West, Jere. 18:3; Elder W. T. Cook, Matt. 7:26.

SATURDAY NIGHT AT MT. CREEK CHURCH—
Elder J. B. Williams, Rev. 21:1; Elder J. P. Via, Luke, second chapter.

NOTE

This was a meeting of peace, love and union. We were blessed to have with us ministers from six states. All came preaching the same doctrine of salvation by grace and grace alone, but after salvation comes the good works. After being made alive in Christ Jesus you are capacitated to perform works that are honorable to the Father, such as joining the church, being baptized, going regularly to your meetings, staying away from places you would be ashamed for your brethren to see you. By so doing, you save yourself from this untoward generation and live in the fellowship and love of the brethren and shine as a light to the world.

VISITING MINISTERS

Elder J. R. Wilson ..... Martinsville, Va.
Elder W. H. Oaks ..... R. 3, Dry Fork, Va.
Elder J. D. Hopkins ..... Schoolfield, Va.
Elder P. J. Washburn ..... Martinsville, Va.
Elder W. H. Lewis ..... Keeling, Va.
Elder F. F. Eggleston ..... Bassett, Va.
Elder T. L. Wilson ..... R. 1, Ridgeway, Va.
Elder J. P. Via ..... Critz, Va.
Elder T. V. Mann ..... 937 Stewart Ave., Atlanta, Ga.
Elder B. A. Phillips ..... R. 3, Alpharetta, Ga.
Elder J. T. Lewis ..... R. 2, Angier, N. C.
Elder J. S. Stephenson ..... R. 2, Angier, N. C.
Elder E. L. Furgeson ..... R. 2, Angier, N. C.
Elder Fred Stewart ..... R. 2, Scottsboro, Ala.
Elder W. T. Cook ..... R. 2, Eclectic, Ala.
Elder J. P. Clayton ..... 331 W. North St., Madisonville, Ky.
Elder J. B. Williams ..... Tallassee, Ala.
Elder Ariel West ..... 202 South Main, Madisonville, Ky.
Elder M. M. Denning ..... Angier, N. C.

HOME MINISTERS

Elder T. L. Webb ..... Marshville, N. C.
Elder C. M. Mills ..... 614 S. Tryon St., Charlotte, N. C.
Elder O. C. Mullis ..... R. 3, Monroe, N. C.
Elder V. V. Willard ..... High Point, N. C.
Elder S. F. Heath ..... Mt. Holly, N. C.
Elder W. E. Benton ..... Sharlotte, S. C.
Elder C. H. White ..... Wadesboro, N. C.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Sent up by churches	$248.85
Donated by friends	13.10
TOTAL	$261.90
Allowance for minutes	$ 25.00
Clerk's fee	15.00
Distributed to ministers	221.95
TOTAL	$261.90

CORRESPONDING LETTER

To the Churches Composing the Original Bear Creek Association, and to all the precious brethren who are seated with us in this setting of our Association—

DEAR BRETHREN, GREETINGS:

Since it has pleased our Heavenly Father to permit us as living monuments of His amazing love and mercy to assemble ourselves together once more in His great name, we hope it is with thankful hearts that we are enjoying the sweet privilege, not only of peace and fellowship in our own bounds, but we are also thankful that the dear Lord has directed the minds of the humble servants to come and be with us. We love them for the truth's sake and want them to feel at home; and not only the elders, but we appreciate the presence of all the brethren of like precious faith.

We are thankful indeed for the kindness being shown us by the membership of Mountain Creek Church, which we feel is the planting of God's hand.

My strongest regrets have ever been that I cannot express my appreciation to the Lord's people for their kindness and that I can't give praise and thanks to our Heavenly King as I would like.

We want our visiting brethren and sisters to feel at home while with us, and may the God of all grace be our shield, guide and keeper until we meet again.

In love,

ELDER V. V. WILLARD.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe in one living and true God; the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

Article 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, providence, grace and glory, and in relative union with the divine word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Article 3. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain the only written revealed word of God and the perfect rule of faith and practice for God's Church in her militant state while here on earth.

Article 4. We believe in the doctrine of election; that God chose His Church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Article 5. We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam, the federal head.

Article 6. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Article 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Article 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and His righteousness only.

Article 9. We believe that God's elect or Church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Article 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never really fall away.

Article 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper or ordinances of Christ's appointment and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the supper; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men. We believe in feet washing, as taught by our Saviour in St. John 13:4-17.

Article 12. We believe that no man as a minister has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptized, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular presbytery.

Article 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and unjust, and a general judgment.

Article 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

RULES GOVERNING THE ORIGINAL BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1st. We understand that at whatever church this Association is being held, that it is being held solely under the authority of that church, just as any other regular or monthly conference.

2nd. That the officers and suffrages of that church shall be the officers and voice of the Association, except as that church may deem prudent to request any member of another church to assist in the business transactions of the Association.

3rd. This Association shall have no authority to pass upon any question of a disciplinary nature except it has first been passed upon by the local churches composing this Association, then the work of the churches shall be recognized by the Association.

4th. Any member who endeavors to bring in or inject a disciplinary question that involves fellowship, before it has been passed upon by the local churches, shall be considered out of order by the church with whom the Association is being held, and by the messengers present from the sister churches.

5th. The Association shall be conducted for no purpose other than song, prayer and preaching services, and no business shall be transacted by the Association except that which is necessary or sets forth the status of each church composing this body in the form of a minute.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	PASTORS AND THEIR ADDRESSES	CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES	Rec. by Exp. and Baptism	Received by Letter	Received by Relation	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Dead	Total Membership	Sunday of Meeting	Contribution
Union Grove	Elder C. M. Mills, 614 South Tryon St., Charlotte, N. C.	F. Latta Baucom, R. 3, Monroe, N. C.	17	1						88	2	$ 50.00
Lawyer's Springs	Elder J. R. Wilson, Martinsville, Va.	H. M. Baucom, Peachland, N. C.	5						2	70	1	36.75
High Hill	Elder J. R. Wilson, Martinsville, Va.	Martin C. Mills, R. 2, Monroe, N. C.	4	1			2		1	51	1	30.00
Mt. Creek	Elder C. M. Mills, Charlotte, N. C.	J. E. Russell, Albermarle, N. C.	1						2	22	3	25.50
Watson	Elder C. M. Mills, Charlotte, N. C.											
	Elder T. L. Webb, Marshville, N. C.	Preston Helms, R. 2, Marshville, N. C.					3		1	28	4	15.25
Liberty Hill	Elder C. M. Mills, Chorlotte, N. C.	T. L. Medlin, Albemorle, N. C.	10	1	1				1	67	1	31.25
Meadow Creek	Elder O. C. Mullis, R. 3, Monroe, N. C.	D. M. Hatccock, Stanfield, N. C.	7						2	41	1	12.00
Pleasant Grove	Elder C. M. Mills, Chorlotte, N. C.											
	Elder T. L. Webb, Marshville, N. C.	A. E. Broom, R. 2, Marshville, N. C.	7				1	1		66	2	28.60
Union	Elder P. J. Washburn, Martinsville, Va.	W. R. Coley, 113 E. Catowba St., Belmont, N. C.		1		2	1			30	3	6.00
Bethel	Elder W. E. Benton, Sharlotte, S. C.	O. J. Bell, Wampee, S. C.	2						1	29	4	3.50
High Point	Elder V. V. Willard, High Point, N. C.											
	Elder J. P. Via, Critz, Va.	M. L. Willard, Marble St., Winston-Salem, N. C.	18						1	89	4	10.00
		TOTALS	71	4	1	2	7	1	11	581		$248.85
										Friends		13.10
		Total Contributions										$261.95

The 1942 session of the Association will be held with the Lawyer's Springs Church, Peachland, N. C., first Sunday and Friday and Saturday before in October.

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MESSENGER OF ZION

ELDER ARIEL WEST, EDITOR
MADISONVILLE, KENTUCKY

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Published Monthly In The Interest of Old School Primitive Baptists

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Devoted To The Cause Of Christ And The Defense Of His Church
— And —
The Peace And Prosperity Of God's People Everywhere!

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